

**Dave Heineman** Governor

## State of Nebraska

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Patrick W. Rice Acting Director Suite 400, The Atrium 1200 'N' Street P.O. Box 98922 Lincoln. Nebraska 68509-8922 Phone (402) 471-2186 FAX (402) 471-2909 website: http://deq.ne.gov

MAR 31 2014

Ron Burrows United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission 11154 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20850

## Re: Crow Butte Resources, Inc. Class I Injection Well Permit Renewal

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality is proposing to renew the permit for the Class I Injection Well Permit (# NE0211670) at the Crow Butte Facility. Enclosed is a copy of the Public Notice for your review.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact me at (402) 471-4290 or via email at nancy.harris@nebraska.gov.

Sincerely,

Nancy Harris

Nancy Harris UIC Program Coordinator Groundwater Unit Water Quality Division

ENCLOSURE

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## PUBLIC NOTICE OF PERMIT RE-ISSUANCE Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division

Pursuant to Title 122, <u>Rules and Regulations for Underground Injection and Mineral</u> <u>Production Wells</u>, Chapters 32 and 33, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality is proposing to renew permit (NE0211670) and re-issue the permit (as NE0211670) to Crow Butte Resources, Inc. (CBR). CBR operates two Class 1 non-hazardous waste injection well designed to accept waste fluids generated at its in-situ uranium mining operation. The injection well is located in the Northwest Quarter of Section 19, Township 31 North, Range 51 West, Dawes County, Nebraska.

The injection well has been operational under two previous permits, NE0206369 between September 30, 1994 and July 2, 2004, and NE0210457 between July 2, 2004 and July 14, 2014. The Department is proposing to renew this permit (NE0210457) and re-issue it under the new permit number NE0211670. This permit provides conditions and limitations on injection parameters, which are essentially identical to the existing permit.

The geologic formations receiving injected waste are restricted to the Morrison and Sundance Formations, which have been demonstrated to be located below the lowermost underground source of drinking water. In addition, the Morrison and the Sundance Formations exhibit water quality that is considered unacceptable under State and Federal Regulations as underground sources of drinking water due to naturally high concentrations of total dissolved solids.

The permit requires the operator to monitor concentrations of specific parameters in the injection fluids to insure that only non-hazardous wastes are being injected. In addition, the injection well is monitored on a continuous basis to record the injection process and ensure compliance with permit conditions.

Persons may request a fact sheet, may comment upon or object to permit re-issuance, or may request a public hearing by writing to Marty Link, Acting Water Quality Division Administrator, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 98922, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922, prior to May 15, 2014. A request for public hearing shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised at a hearing. The Department, prior to making a decision regarding a public hearing shall consider all comments. If the Department receives substantive comments regarding this re-issuance, a public hearing may be scheduled.

Copies of the fact sheet and all information pertaining to the permit re-issuance will be available for viewing and copying at the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, Suite 400, 1200 N Street, The Atrium, in Lincoln and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality 430 East Second, in Chadron between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm weekdays, mailed upon request, or available on the NDEQ website (deq.ne.gov) under public notice. These are also available on the NDEQ website. Further information may be obtained by contacting Nancy Harris, UIC Program Coordinator, (402) 471-4290 or via email at nancy.harris@nebraska.gov.

Individuals requiring special accommodations or alternate formats of materials should notify the Department by calling (402) 471-2186. TDD users should call (800) 833-7352 and ask the relay operator to call the Department at (402) 471-2186.